

The star-shaped fort, surrounding moat, and earthworks were constructed between 1672–1756 to protect Spanish territory in Florida and the shipping routes along the Florida coast.

This National Monument was the focus of the struggle between Great Britain and Spain for regional supremacy during the 17th and 18th centuries.

It was also the site of a British garrison during the American Revolution, and was last employed for defensive purposes in 1898 during the Spanish-American War.

Madam Speaker, more than 1.5 million tourists visit this National Monument each year. This 16th Century fortress, that has never been conquered, is straining under modern day requirements to accommodate its growing visitors' population.

I have been working with the Colonial St. Augustine Preservation Foundation, the City of St. Augustine and the National Park Service to improve and expand educational resources and public accommodations at the Castillo de San Marcos National Monument.

As you can imagine, adapting a 4-century old structure with adequate public facilities, meeting handicap and disability standards, and visitor educational facility standards are not an easy task.

H.R. 2457 authorizes Federal funding for both museum, educational and visitor facilities to compliment and serve this 16th Century fortress without destroying a historic structure.

For the first time, this legislation appropriately authorizes federal funds to construct a visitor and educational resource center for the Castillo de San Marcos National Monument.

Not only will this new visitors center assist the fort in maintaining its historical integrity, but it will accommodate visitors' needs and provide a great educational experience.

In addition to this bill, the National Park Service is expected to complete a General Management Plan in the following months which will include design, planning and construction options at a required facility at the National Monument.

This legislation will properly authorize a long overdue major infrastructure improvement for the National Park Service.

Finally, this bill will preserve for future generations this historic fortress and will add to the enjoyment and education of both visitors and local citizens.

I would like to thank Chairman RADANOVICH for his support of this bill. I also would like to thank House Resources Committee Chairman RICHARD POMBO for his support of this much needed measure.

Madam Speaker, I urge the passage of H.R. 2457.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2004

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to inform the House of Representatives that last Thursday, September 9, 2004, I was unavoidably detained and missed the following roll call votes:

Rollcall No. 434 on Agreeing to the Obey Amendment. Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall No. 435 on Agreeing to the Hayworth Amendment. Had I been present I would have voted "no."

Rollcall No. 436 on Agreeing to the Kildee Amendment. Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall No. 437 on agreeing to the Stark Amendment. Had I been present I would have voted "no."

Rollcall No. 438 on agreeing to the Paul Amendment. Had I been present I would have voted "no."

Rollcall No. 439 on agreeing to the Hayworth Amendment number six. Had I been present I would have voted "no."

Rollcall No. 440 on the question of final passage of H.R. 5006. Had I been present I would have voted "aye."

PARADISE VALLEY HOSPITAL: A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2004

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, today I rise to recognize Paradise Valley Hospital, a marvelous healthcare facility in my Congressional District that has served the community for 100 years.

In 1904, Ellen G. White, the co-founder and spiritual leader of the Seventh Day Adventist Church, helped purchase the 54 acres of land in National City where the Paradise Valley Hospital currently sits.

Paradise Valley Hospital is proud to be the first hospital in San Diego's South Bay, and is the second oldest hospital in the entire San Diego County. The hospital is a 301 bed, non-profit acute care community hospital with emergency services that includes the Bayview Behavioral Health Campus, a 64-bed psychiatric facility. The hospital serves the South-eastern and South Bay regions of my Congressional District where the most economically challenged and culturally diverse communities in San Diego County live.

Paradise Valley Hospital is owned and operated by Adventist Health, headquartered in Roseville, California. The caring professionals of Adventist Health are committed to continuing the Seventh Day Adventist heritage of quality services by working to enhance its patients' total well-being and to improve the health of our diverse community.

It is a full service healthcare facility staffed by 173 physicians, 1,324 employees, and 148 volunteers who oversee 12,622 admissions, 1,750 deliveries, 36,256 emergency room visits, over 99,132 outpatient visits, and 26,169 home care visits per year.

Among its significant accomplishments, Paradise Valley Hospital has performed its 1,000th cardiac catheterization lab procedure; has begun to offer therapeutic classes in Tai Chi, Yoga, Pilates and Kickboxing; has raised nearly \$100,000 in its S.T.A.R. Benefit Golf Tournament, and has established the Paradise Valley Hospital Foundation. Most importantly, in 2003, Paradise Valley Hospital donated \$13,260,000 in free and low-cost service to the people of South Bay.

Paradise Valley Hospital places a priority on its relationship with the community through a commitment to quality service, cultural com-

petence, a concern for general welfare, and a willingness to provide spiritual leadership and guidance.

On this wonderful centennial, I am very happy to honor and recognize Paradise Valley Hospital as one of the foremost healthcare institutions in San Diego County.

HONORING OLYMPIAN CARLY PIPER

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 2004

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I would first like to congratulate all the American athletes who competed in the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece.

Being an Olympian is a tremendous honor, and I commend all the athletes who represented our Nation well. These athletes have dedicated long hours, sweat, and tears to accomplish the highest honor in sports.

I would like to recognize the Olympians from the State of Michigan, and particularly one of my constituents Carly Piper. Carly and her 800 meter freestyle relay team had a dominating performance at the Olympic pool and earned a gold medal while setting a world record 7 minutes, 53.42 seconds, easily beating the mark of 7:55.47 set exactly 17 years earlier by the controversial East Germany team.

Carly Piper, the daughter of Kenn and Carol Piper, graduated from Grosse Pointe North High School in 2001 and had visions of going to the Olympics. Even in high school, Carly was All-State and All-American earning respect at a young age.

Attending the University of Wisconsin, Carly continued to shine in her athletic endeavors. In 2002, Ms. Piper placed third in the 1500 meter freestyle at the P66 Summer Nationals and she took fourth in the 500 yard freestyle. In 2003, she finished sixth in the 1650 yard freestyle in the NCAA Championship and won gold in the 800 meter freestyle relay at the Pan American Games in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

Carly earned a spot on the U.S. Olympic team by finishing fifth in the 200 meter freestyle at the U.S. trials and is the first female swimmer from the University of Wisconsin to make a U.S. Olympic Team. Carly, who is a zoology major at the University of Wisconsin, plans on becoming a veterinarian after her swimming and college careers are over.

When Carly was seven years old, she told her parents that she would go to the Olympics, and little did she know, she would not only go to the Olympics but she would win the gold with a recordbreaking swim.

Again, I congratulate Carly Piper for all of her dedication and hard work and the achievements she has met both personally and with her team while representing the United States in the 2004 Olympic games in Athens. She has made all in the State of Michigan proud of her victories.